

WASHINGTON STATE

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 2006

CATEGORY	2006	2005	YTD 06	YTD 05
CSEPP INCIDENTS	2	6	2	6
DOE INCIDENTS	1	1	1	1
FIRE	7	4	7	4
HAZMAT	198	192	198	192
OTHER	21	21	21	21
911 OUTAGES	2	3	2	3
SAR	52	43	52	43
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	4	4	4	4
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	0	0
ESAR (NOT INCL IN TOTAL)	(4)	0	(4)	0
TOTAL	287	274	287	274

LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages
ESAR	Evidence Search Missions (Not included in total count)

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

- On January 1, The National Weather Service issued a High Wind Warning for the coastal areas of Washington and the Lawrence Lake area of Thurston County until 10 p.m. Sustained winds of 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph expected. Additionally, a Coastal Flood Warning was issued for Pacific County.

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- On January 3, the National Weather Service issued a Flood Watch which very soon changed into a Flood Warning for the Skokomish River in Mason County. This Flood Warning was terminated on January 6th but was reissued again on January 7th as a new storm system moved into Washington State. The Flood Warning for the Skokomish River was finally terminated at 0300 a.m. on January 18th.
- On January 4, at the request of the Mason County Sheriff's office, duty officers coordinated the dispatch of German Shepard Search Dog Teams from Pierce county to assist in the search for and elderly woman in the City of Shelton. The woman was located deceased the next day.
- On January 6, Washington State Department of Transportation, Aviation Division, initiated a search for a twin engine aircraft reported missing in the vicinity of Skagit County Airport near Burlington. A Coast Guard Cutter, helicopter, ground search teams and assisted in the search. The crashed aircraft was located early the next day, pilot was found dead.
- On January 7, the National Weather Service in Spokane issued a Winter Storm Watch above 4000 feet for Okanogan, Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille & Spokane counties through Monday evening 01/09/06. This front was followed by more wet weather that added Flood Warnings and Watches to both sides of the Cascade Range. Winter Storm Warnings were also issued for both eastern and western Washington through Wednesday the 11th of January. This weather system was superseded on January 9th when another intense and very wet storm front moved into the state.
- On January 9, the US Geological Survey issued the following advisory of possible landslides for the Seattle area: western parts of King, Snohomish, and Pierce Counties. Wet soil conditions and continuing rainfall are likely to result in additional landslides during the next several days. Steep coastal bluffs and other steep hillsides are particularly susceptible to landslides under the present conditions. In addition, heavy snow falling amid gusty winds in the Cascades would continue through January 10th and the Olympic Mountains were also seeing heavy snows. In the lowlands, the National Weather Service said flooding was possible, but not imminent, for rivers in parts of Western Washington, including Pierce, Thurston, Lewis, Pacific, and Grays Harbor Counties. Flood Watches were also issued for several counties in Southwest Washington. This winter storm system continued to produce wet flooding conditions through

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January 18th prompting many counties to issue disaster declarations for their respective counties.

- On January 17, Klickitat County initiated a search for 2 kayaker's reported overdue in the Canyon Creek area 8 miles northeast of the town of Klickitat. Swift water search volunteers from Clark County responded to aid in the search as soon as the search mission began. Search volunteers from Cowlitz and Yakima Counties were also alerted to aid in the search the following morning if necessary after an aerial over flight was used to search for the missing pair. The kayakers walked out of the area on their own on January 18.
- On January 19, The National Weather Service issued a Heavy Snow Warning for the west slopes and passes of the North, Central, and Southern Cascades. Snowfall totals of 10 to 18 inches are expected within the next 24 hours. The same warning was issued for the Northeast Mountains of Eastern Washings. Total snowfall of 3 to 6 inches in the valleys and 6 to 12 inches above 3000 feet expected.
- On January 20, Washington State Patrol – Spokane called with an Amber Alert for an abducted 17 year-old female in the Spokane Valley area. The Alert & Warning Center immediately launched the message via National Alert & Warning System and the Law Enforcement Telecommunications System. However, the alert was cancelled before the message was transmitted over the Emergency Alert System. The victim was returned home safely.
- On January 25, Washington State Department of Transportation, Aviation Division, initiated a search for a twin engine aircraft reported missing in the vicinity of Mount Saint Helens. Radar tracking placed the down aircraft in very rugged terrain in NW Skamania County. Ground teams on snowmobiles and snowshoes from Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat and Yakima Counties assisted in the search. Weather conditions severely hampered the search with 1-2 feet of new snow falling during the search period. The search was suspended late on January 27 as another significant weather system approached the area.
- On January 27, the National Weather Service issued a Winter Storm Watch for most of the Counties in the state. This Watch soon became a Warning as the storm system moved into Washington State bringing heavy rain and snow to the mountains above 3000 feet. Many rivers and streams soon began to rise as a High Wind Watch was also added for the south Washington coast in Pacific & Wahkiakum Counties. Additional Gale Warnings and Flood Warnings were

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issued on January 29th as the storm continued its way through Washington State. On January 29th a landslide advisory was also issued by the USGS in Denver, Colorado for the western portions of Pierce, King & Snohomish Counties.

- On January 29, Snohomish County Sheriff's office opened a recovery mission for a stranded female hiker 4 miles up the Boulder Creek Trailhead with a broken ankle. Seven ESAR from Skagit County assisted with the rescue.
- For the month of January 2006 the SEOO's:
 - Issued 152 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Issued 36 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Conducted 1246 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Coordinated 24 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
 - Participated in 15 exercises of which 10 were vessel spill drills
 - Made 1326 and answered 1598 telephone calls
 - Conducted 1767 National Warning System Tests, conducted 279 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
 - Conducted 57 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
 - Conducted 5 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
 - Conducted 6 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)